

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07

NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 L-03 MC-02 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11

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R 181220Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECDEF WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 7396

INFO CHNAVMAT WASHDC

NAVSEASYS COM WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

NAVSUPSYSCOM WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 5963

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR USN REPAIR SHIP SERVICES FOR IIN

REF: ARMISH/MAAG 131331 JULY 1974

1. SUMMARY: WE BELIEVE THAT IIN'S REQUEST FOR USN REPAIR SHIP SERVICES SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED FROM STANDPOINT OF POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON PRESENT COMMERCIAL CONTRACT FOR NAVAL REPAIR, FINANCING FOR SERVICES, REGIONAL POLITICS AND LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

2. IIN REQUEST FOR SERVICES OF USN REPAIR SHIP DURING 5-6 MONTH ABSENCE OF PRESENT LEASED REPAIR SHIP (IIS CHAH BAHAR) RAISES SEVERAL QUESTIONS WHICH SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BEFORE USG RESPONSE IS GIVEN TO IRANIAN NAVY.

3. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE, STANWYCK CORP HAS CONTRACT WITH IIN TO HELP OPERATE IIS CHAH BAHAR REPAIR FACILITY. APPROXIMATELY 50  
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STANWYCK PERSONNEL ARE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT BANDAR ABBAS. PARTLY

OWING TO HARSH LIVING CONDITIONS AT BANDAR ABBAS, THERE HAVE BEEN PERSONNEL DIFFICULTIES AND SOME PROBLEMS WITH STANWYCK'S PERFORMANCE.

WE HAVE NOT HEARD REPORTS OF IRANIAN COMPLAINTS RECENTLY, HOWEVER. IF USN PROVIDES FULLY MANNED REPAIR SHIP AT BANDAR ABBAS FOR INTERIM PERIOD, WE CAN PROBABLY EXPECT THAT IRANIANS MAY BE INTERESTED IN SECURING USN SERVICES AS REPLACEMENT FOR STANWYCK CONTRACT WHEN IT IS TERMINATED OR WHEN CHAH BAHAR LEASE EXPIRES. UNLESS USG IS PREPARED TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO POSSIBLE EVENTUAL REQUEST OF THIS NATURE, WE SUGGEST THAT COMMERCIAL CONTRACT FOR REPAIR FACILITY BE CONSIDERED IN LIEU OF USN PROVISION OF SHIP AND SERVICES. ALTERNATIVELY, ANY USN CONTRACT WITH IIN SHOULD STATE THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO EXTEND THE SUPPORT SERVICES OF USN REPAIR SHIP.

4. IF USN PROVIDES SHIP AND CREW FOR INTERIM PERIOD, HOW WILL PAYMENT BE ARRANGED? USN WOULD HAVE OPTION OF CHARGING ENTIRE BILL FOR USE OF US NAVAL SHIP AND SERVICES OF CREW DURING TWO TO FIVE MONTH PERIOD. WE IMAGINE BILL FOR THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY COULD COME AS QUITE A SHOCK TO GOI. ALTERNATIVELY, IF SERVICES WERE PROVIDED ON GRATIS BASIS (WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SUGGESTED BY IIN), ARRANGEMENT MIGHT BE OBJECT OF CONGRESSIONAL CRITICISM. DURING GAO SURVEY, TEAM MEMBERS LOOKED INTO JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUED LEASE OF USN SHIPS. PROVISION OF REPAIR SHIP SERVICES WOULD SURELY BE SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY.

5. WHILE THERE MIGHT BE POLITICAL MERIT IN PRECEDENT OF HAVING USN SHIP LOCATED AT BANDAR ABBAS FOR EXTENDED PERIOD, PROPOSAL SHOULD ALSO BE VIEWED FROM PERSPECTIVE OF BROADER REGIONAL POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT WOULD BE REACTION OF NEIGHBORING ARAB COUNTRIES? WE SHOULD ALSO BEAR IN MIND THAT EXTENDED PRESENCE OF A US NAVAL VESSEL AT BANDAR ABBAS WOULD CALL ATTENTION TO OUR QUIET AIR OPERATIONS FROM THAT PORT. IF OPERATIONS ARE TO CONTINUE, IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE NOT TO ATTRACT SUCH ATTENTION.

6. PROPER MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FOR IIN VESSELS IS OBVIOUSLY SERIOUS AND LONG-TERM PROBLEM. BEFORE USG DECIDES WHETHER SERVICES OF A USN REPAIR SHIP SHOULD BE INTRODUCED AS A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO SHORT-

TERM MANIFESTATION OF THIS PROBLEM, WE BELIEVE SECDEF, USN AND STATE SHOULD CONSIDER FROM US STANDPOINT MOST DESIRABLE LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT.  
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MENT FOR DEALING WITH IIN'S PROBLEMS. RATHER THAN ARRANGE FOR AN INTERIM LEASE FOR A USN VESSEL AT THIS TIME, IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO PROPOSE A SUPPLEMENTARY COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENT, POSSIBLY WITH STANWYCK, TO ASSIST IN PERFORMANCE OF MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OPERATIONS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT NOT ONLY ARE THERE FEW QUALIFIED IRANIAN PERSONNEL AVAILABLE FOR SHIP REPAIR WORK, BUT THERE ARE INADEQUATE REPAIR FACILITIES ASHORE AT BANDAR ABBAS FOR THIS PURPOSE. BOTH PERSONNEL AND REPAIR EQUIPMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE

BROUGHT IN.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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